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Contract

National Workload Action Group secretariat and lead delivery partner on best practice guidance for retention and agency

Department for Education

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-023982

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0391df

Published 16 August 2023, 10:19am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Department for Education

Sanctuary Buildings, 20, Great Smith Street

London

SW1P 3BT

Email

Jess.ROBERTS@education.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://education.app.jaggaer.com/>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

Education

Section II: Object**II.1) Scope of the procurement****II.1.1) Title**

National Workload Action Group secretariat and lead delivery partner on best practice guidance for retention and agency

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85000000 - Health and social work services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Following an open procurement, the Department for Education has appointed a suitably experienced organisation to deliver the following objectives relating to child and family social work:

- 1) To deliver solutions recommended by the National Workload Action Group (NWAG) and provide a secretariat role for the group
- 2) produce tools and resources to support Local Authorities with social worker retention; and
- 3) produce tools and resources to support Local Authorities in the engagement of agency

social workers.

The NWAG is made up of sector and practice experts and seeks to identify and recommend solutions to reduce unnecessary workload drivers for child and family social workers so that child and family social workers have enough time to spend working directly with children and families.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Value excluding VAT: £1,010,368

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 80000000 - Education and training services
- 85310000 - Social work services
- 85320000 - Social services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The supplier will be responsible for delivering solutions recommended by the NWAG (either by procuring 3rd parties or performing the work directly). As part of this work the supplier will deliver a secretariat role to convene and manage the NWAG as an impartial adjudicator.

In addition to the work of the NWAG, the same supplier is required to:

- collate and/or produce tools and resources on areas that impact social worker retention to complement the Social Worker Employer Standards Health Check, areas include wellbeing, supervision and effective workforce planning systems; and
- produce tools/resources to support Local Authorities to engage agency social workers effectively and collaboratively (including, subject to consultation, to support local

authorities to comply with proposed national rules on engaging agency social work resource).

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2023/S 000-009656](#)

IV.2.9) Information about termination of call for competition in the form of a prior information notice

The contracting authority will not award any further contracts based on the above prior information notice

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

con_21447

Title

National Workload Action Group Secretariat and Lead Delivery Partner on Social Worker Retention and Agency Resources

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

27 July 2023

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 5

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Dartington Hall trading as Research in Practice

The Elmhirst Centre, Dartington Hall, Totnes, Devon, TQ9 6EL, registered company number: 1485560, registered charity number: 279756

Devon

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot: £1,010,368

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

The Buyer may, at its own discretion, extend the Contract on multiple occasions, but will not exceed a cumulative extension of 24 months post the Expiry Date.

It is anticipated, at the time of contract signature, that any extension would involve delivery of the services on a reduced scope, with focus being on activities related to the maintenance and improvement of the Deliverables that were delivered during the Initial Contract Period. The Buyer reserves the right to extend this anticipated scope at its own discretion.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court of Justice

The Strands London WC2A 2LL

London

SW1P 3BT

Email

jess.roberts@education.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

The Department of Education incorporated a voluntary standstill period at the point the decision regarding the award of the contract was communicated to Tenderers.

